

**REMARKS**

Claims 1-32 are pending. Of these, claims 1, 5, 15, 19, 24 and 26 are written in independent format.

Again, this document is a Supplement to the Amendment filed September 5, 2006. Upon reconsideration, Applicant submits that it was not necessary to have amended independent claims 1, 15 and 24 as was done in the previous reply submitted September 5, 2006. Accordingly, by this Supplemental Reply, Applicant has restored claims 1, 15 and 24 to their original scope and resurrected the now-deleted amendments to claims 1, 15 and 24 as new dependent claims 30-32, respectively. Claims 30-32 depend from claims 1, 15 and 24, respectively, and are patentable at least for the same reasoning as are claims 1, 15 and 32, respectively, as explained below. In the alternative, claims 30-32 are patentable for the reasons given in the response filed September 5, 2006.

**§ 102 REJECTION**

Beginning on page 2 of the Office Action, claims 1, 8-9, 11, 13-15, 22-24 and 28-29 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. patent no. 6,717,468 (“the ‘468 patent”) to Jeong et al. This rejection is traversed.

The ‘468 patent is directed to an operational amplifier (op-amp) (FIG. 4) for a liquid crystal display (LCD) device. In FIG. 4, an output node OUT of the op-amp is selectively driven by a PMOS output transistor MO12 or an NMOS output transistor MO11 according to signals on the gates thereof selectively transferred via PMOS transistor MO4 and NMOS transistor MO7, respectively. The output transistors MO12 and MO11 are part of the op-amp, i.e., not external to the op-amp. This is made clear in at least three passages of the ‘468 patent. For example, column 5, lines 46-50 states (underlined emphasis added):

The rail-to-rail output stage [of the op-amp of Fig. 4) comprises one PMOS transistor (MO12), one NMOS transistor (MO11), and a coupling capacitor, C<sub>pre</sub>, which is connected between the gates of transistor MO11 and transistor MO12.

Similarly, col. 5, lines 43-46 state (underlined emphasis added):

Transistors MO5 and MO6 are bias-transfer-switches that precharge the gate of the output transistors (MO11, MO12) [of the op-amp of Fig. 4] when ck\_pre or ck\_pre\_b are asserted. FIG. 5 illustrates a timing diagram for the ck\_pre and ck\_pre\_b signals.

Lastly, col. 5, lines 15-18 state (underlined emphasis added):

In one embodiment, a coupling capacitor is used between the PMOS transistor [MO12] and NMOS [MO11] transistor of the output stage [of the op-amp of Fig. 4] for this purpose.

A distinction over the '468 patent of claim 1 (for example) is a pull-up transistor connected to an output of the operational amplifier and a pull-down transistor connected to the output of the operational amplifier. In contrast, and contrary to the Examiner's assertion, the transistors MO12 and MO11 are part of the op-amp (as explained above), i.e., neither can be considered as external to the op-amp.

Another distinction over the '468 Patent of claim 1 is a control circuit to selectively actuate the pull-up and the pull-down transistors that are connected to an output of the operational amplifier. Again, as explained above, the '487 Patent does not teach pull-up and pull-down transistors connected to an output of op-amp. Assuming for the sake of argument that the '487 Patent teaches some sort of control circuitry, such control circuitry does not selectively control pull-up and pull-down transistors that are connected to the op-amp because such transistors are not taught by the '487 Patent.

Independent claims 15 and 24 recite features similar to claim 1, respectively, and thus at least similarly distinguish over the '487 patent. Claims 2-4, 8-9, 11, 13-14, 22-23 and 28-29 depend from claims 1, 15 and 24, respectively, and thus at least similarly distinguish over the '487 patent.

As the '487 patent fails to teach at least one element of each rejected claim, the anticipation rejection based thereon is improper.

In view of the foregoing discussion, withdrawal of the rejection is requested.

**CONCLUSION**

The issues raised in the Office Action are considered to be resolved. Accordingly, Applicant again requests a Notice of Allowance.

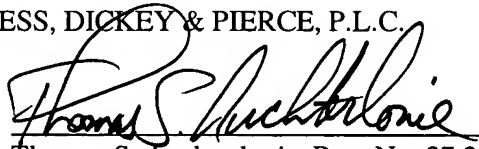
If the Examiner believes that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies to charge any underpayment or non-payment of any fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17, or credit any overpayment of such fees, to Deposit Account No. 08-0750, including, in particular, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

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